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ER 7-8084

27 January 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director for Scientific Intelligence
THROUGH: Deputy Director (Intelligence)
SUBJECT: Implementation of Killian Report, NSC Action 1430:
Specific Recommendation C.3

1. By virtue of its action on 4 August 1955 (number 1430) the NSC "noted that the responsible agencies have concurred either in full or with qualifications in the following recommendations and will implement them as indicated in the comments." The comments as far as this Agency is concerned have been embodied in a memorandum from the DCI to Executive Secretary of the NSC dated 6 June 1955 under the subject of "NSC Action 1355" (TS #103738).

2. Specific Recommendation C.3 of the Killian Report reads as follows:

"We must find ways to increase the number of hard facts upon which our intelligence estimates are based, to provide better strategic warning, to minimize surprise in the kind of attack, and to reduce the danger of gross overestimation or gross underestimation of the threat. To this end, we recommend adoption of a vigorous program for the extensive use, in many intelligence procedures, of the most advanced knowledge in science and technology."

This recommendation is one on which CIA has primary responsibility for reporting to the NSC, subject to coordination with other agencies. Within CIA the leadership responsibility on this recommendation would appear to fall in OSI, though other components will have an interest. If this Office can be of any assistance please let us know.

3. For your information I quote the comment of the Department of Defense on this recommendation:

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"Secretary of Defense concurs in recommendation; and in the action proposed for its implementation by CIA, provided that the Director of Central Intelligence in the implementation makes provision for coordination with all interested agencies."

4. In order that the Director may be prepared as necessary to report to the NSC on action taken to implement the Killian Report, I would appreciate receiving a statement by 1 April 1956 of progress on this recommendation.

RICHARD M. BISSELL, Jr.
Special Assistant to the Director
for Planning and Coordination

PCS/DCI:JQR:aml (27 Jan 1956)

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